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(The national voice of Indo-Canadians)

Anti-Klan group active

The Committee for Racial Equality, which is in the forefront in the fight against the Ku Klux Klan, has started a membership drive to help raise funds to carry on the struggle.

A release from the Committee said it intends "to launch a massive educational campaign and public appeal against the Klan and anticipates an operating deficit budget of approximately $5,000."

It is offering membership for individuals at five dollars and organizations at 25.

"All supportive donations, however small, are gratefully appreciated. Organizations are encouraged to have one representative member participate in our general meeting and strong supporters are encouraged to actively involve themselves in our endeavours," the release said.

It also gave a breakdown of what the Committee stands for and what it has done to get the Klan - a white racist supremacy group - banned in Ontario.

At present, the committee is composed of various concerned individuals and organizations such as, The World Council of Churches, the Canadian Peace Congress, the Working Group on Police Minority Relations, the Ontario Federation of Students, the Universal African Improvement Assoc., the Greek Canadian Democratic Organization, the United Jewish People's Order and others.

Its endeavours to date, have involved an educational campaign in which 3,000 educational flyers were widely distributed, outlining the history of the KKK, and the CBC documentry film on the Klan, "The Invisible Empire", was shown at many high schools, colleges and universities in Toronto. These educational endeavours assisted in the mobilization of 500 people for a Ban the Klan rally and demonstration which was held on Oct. 4, 1980.

These efforts, however, scarcely scratched the surface, and in our times of high unemployment and enormous social and racial unrest, we require a strong, broad-based and continuing community response to the problem of racism which is fermented in particular, by the KKK.

Through our united efforts, we need to pursuade various levels of government that the activities of the Ku Klux Klan will not be condoned in Toronto, Ontario, nor anywhere in Canada.

Through a continued program of mass action and education, the Committee for Racial Equality is committed to protecting the equal rights of all visible minority groups, in the development of unity among people of all races and nationalities.

We are grateful for the support and membership of all progressive movements, organizations and individuals sharing and assisting in our endeavours against the KKK, it said.

[Contrast].

DELHI AIRPORT BEING MODERNISED

New Delhi, (UNI) - No foreign airlines has given any threat about bypassing Delhi International Airport now or in the past, according to Indian Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister A.P. Sharma.

The President, Sanjiva Reddy and the Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, welcoming . L.I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of The CPSU on his arrival in New Delhi.
Mr. Brezhnev was on a 4-day State visit to India in December.

Sabotage in Sanjay plane crash?

By George Mathew

New Delhi: A sensational theory on the cause of the Pitts' aircraft crash resulting in the death of Sanjay Gandhi has come to light. The Government is presently looking into an alleged sabotage involving some hardcore RSS activists belonging to the erstwhile Jana Sangh.

The allegation was first made on the floor of the Lok Sabha by a ruling Congress (I) member, R.P. Yadav.

Mr. Yadav alleged that Sanjay Gandhi's aircraft crashed as a result of a conspiracy hatched by Nanaji Deshmukh in connivance with an aircraft mechanic, also belonging to the Jana Sangh.

Mr. Yadav who made a special mention in the Lok Sabha under rule 377 said that his statement was based on a letter in his possession purported to have been written by a member of the Bharathiya Janata Party ((BJP, former Jana Sangh group in the Janata Party). R.P. Sarangi to Atal Bihari Vajpayee, at present President of the party.

Both Mr. Sarangi and Mr. Vajpayee who were present in the House strongly denied the existence of such a letter and demanded that the whole matter should be referred to two Supreme Court judges for inquiry since they are allegation of a serious nature.

The Congress(I) members, particularly the Youth Congress(I) leaders, were agitated over the matter and demanded thorough investigation. Acknowledging their sentiments the Speaker said that the matter was before the House and there was no need to get excited about it.

Mr. Yadav in his statement said that he wanted to expose a conspiracy which had "snatched a son from a mother and had widowed a young woman." It had also deprived the nation of a budding youth leader.

He said he wanted to tell the world that Sanjay Gandhi's death was not an ordinary death. It was a cruel and blood curdling political murder" committed at the "instance of Nanaji Deshmukh."

He said the crash of the Pitts' aircraft was caused by a mechanic of the Indian Airlines who had manipulated the engine of the plane on the fateful day, June 23.

He based his allegation on a letter allegedly written by a BJP member of the House, R.P. Sarangi to the party President, A.B. Vajpayee. A copy of the said letter was placed on the table of the House.

The text of the letter dated November 10, 1980 in Hindi read as follows:

Dear Altalji, namaskar.

I am writing this to you with a heavy heart. A senior "pracharak" of the RSS has been telling important RSS leaders that Sanjay Gandhi was finished by Nanaji (Deshmukh). Rumours have it that at the behest of Nanaji, a 'Sanghi' mechanic of the Indian Airlines had done something to the engine of the aircraft so that it crashes within 15-20 minutes of the take-off. This was confirmed in my presence by a Marathi 'pracharak' at the Sangh office in Delhi.

I feel that by conspiring to finish off Sanjay, Nanaji has committed a great sin. But by exposing the conspiracy, the Marathi 'pracharaks' are doing a much more dangerous job.

You should exert your influence to try to stop this propaganda. Otherwise, if the government comes to know of it, many innocent workers will have to suffer for Nanaji's sin.

We may have had differences with Sanjay, but he was not our enemy. Ever since I have come to know of the conspiracy, I have had a feeling of being trapped in a gang of murderers. Madhokji (Balraj Madok) was right in alleging that Upadhyaji (Deen Dayal Upadhayaya) had been got murdered by Nanaji.

On one hand Devaraji (Bala Saheb Deoras) supports Indiraji and Sanjay and on the other Nanaji conspires to finish off Sanjay. What does this double-faced policy mean?

I hope you will give attention to what I have written.

Yours

Rudra Pratap Sarangi.

Mr. Sarangi challenged Mr. Yadav to level the charges outside the House so that he could be sued for "character assasination."

Blinded prisoners of Bihar

POLICE BRUTALITY

By George Mathew

New Delhi: The height of police brutality has been exposed in sordid story of blinding of undertrial prisoners in the central jail of Bhagalpur in Bihar. Eyes and ears could not believe that such barbarism exists in the 20th century when limitless slogans on human rights reverberate throughout the world.

The blinding of hapless prisoners is nothing new for the Bihar police. It was going on since October 79 and thus far 34 prisoners have been blinded as per records.

The police say that blinding was not done by them. They pass it on to the angry public and claim that though inhuman, the blinding of proclaimed criminals has social sanction. But all of them were not even criminals. Some were innocent young men taken into custody on suspicion.

"Ever since these criminals wanted in so many cases have been blinded - but mind you, not by the police - the law and order situation in Bhagalpur has shown a marked improvement."

"For the first time in this crime prone area there was fear of the police among criminals," the police say.

The horror story was first exposed by the Indian Express on November 28 in a 5-column box item with photographs of the blinded men. Then came follow-up stories in the national press, the concern in public and political parties and the uproar in Parliament.

Interviews with the blinded prisoers published in the press suggested that the mode adopted by the police was identical in all cases. One such report said: "The vietims were caught, dragged to a police station, severely beaten, held down by some while a policeman burst their eyes first with a takwa, the thick and large needle used for stitching paper and gunny bags and then with a syringe needle; this was followed by acid being poured on the wounds. In half a dozen cases the entire operation seems to have been repeated a second time to ensure total blindness. The victims, blood drenched and unconscious by now, were kept for two to four days in the police station. All this was done not in one single isolated police station but in nine of them."

The Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, was visibly moved when she referred to the incident in the Rajya Sabha. Intervening in a debate on the blindings she expressed "very deep agony."

"When my attention was drawn (to the incidents), I could not believe that such a thing could happen. I was physically sick and even now I cannot talk about it.

"What has this country come to, how can anybody do this to a fellow man?, she asked in a choked voice and added "we must make a major effort in training the police to see that they are not dehumanised. If all the policemen are like this we must persuade others to join. I am not capable of saying anything more," Mrs. Gandhi said.

The Home Minister, Giani Zail Singh, made a statement in the Lok Sabha owning responsibility for what had happened. He assured an inquiry by an independent agency. The Prime Minister had decided to give an ex-gratia relief of Rs 15,000.00 to each of the victims, he announced.

During the 3-hour debate on the subject the ruling Congress(I) members accused the Opposition of trying to make political capital out of the incident, the origin of which was traced to the Janata rule in October 1980.

The Opposition felt that the ruling party was treating the matter lightly since the incidents happened under the Congress(I) rule in Bihar. They sought the resignation of the Chief Minister and inquiry by a parliamentary committee.

The Opposition described the incident as a barbarous and sadistic act by the police. Pointing out that they were not satisfied with mere assurance by the government, they staged a walk out.

Subsequently, the government suspended 15 police officers allegedly involved in the incident which created a stir in the state. The public joined the policemen in their demonstration and called a "Bihar bandh" which was partially successful. The police and also the Chief Minister of the state claim that there is social sanction in the blinding of "habitual offenders."

The Supreme Court is at present hearing a writ petition of the blinded prisoners. Some of them were produced before the court.

The court ordered their admission and treatment at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. The court also ordered the Bihar government to pay Rs 500 per month to one of the relatives accompanying each of the blinded undertrials as long as they were under treatment at the Institute and payment of Rs. 500 each to all the blinded undertrials to enable a relative to accompany the patient when they are brought for treatment in Delhi.

Police justify blinding

New Delhi, (UNI) - Even as the Bihar Government in taking steps to maintain order and discipline in the police force in the wake of protests in several districts over the action taken against some policemen allegedly involved in the Bhagalpur case of blindings of undertrials, there is a reaction among the police that they should not be unduly vilified.

Assistant Inspector General Ramachandra Khan told UNI that the Bihar police were determined not to be exposed to political caprice "just because some people were raising the bogey of conscience". The Bihar police has sought to justify their action by means of agitations in the districts.

Asserting the people's right to self-defence against criminals, Mr. Khan said the large number of people coming out in support of the police force proved that they were not guilty. According to him the prima facie evidence for the alleged involvement of the police, based on the allegations of the criminals, was not sufficient. In any investigation, he said, the statements of the hundreds of thousands of people of Shagalpur could not be ignored as these constituted the material evidence in support of the police.

Saligram Saha [2nd from L] and Baljit Singh, two of the blinded undertrials with their fathers at the AIIMS Hospital in New Delhi.

Stamps on brides

New Delhi, (UNI) - Four multicolour special stamps depicting brides from Bengal, Kashmir, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu in their traditional finery have been issued by the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department.

Brides from other states will be covered later.

The department issues regularly, in series, multicolour stamps on various themes. The bride series is the first to be issued this year. Last year the Department issued a series on air mails.

The department has chosen flowering trees, tribes and butterflies as themes for next year's release under the series.

The department would also consider issuing a set of stamps on Himalayan flowers as suggested by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Indian stamps are becoming popular abroad, judged by the demand and steady rise in revenue earned. Last year the deparument sold stamps worth 90,000 dollars, more than double the earnings in 1978. The United States was a major buyer of Indian stamps.

Among the important stamps to be released by the Indian Postal Department next year are: stamps on Pablo Picasso to commemmorate his birth centenary; youth leader Sanjay Gandhi; two stamps on Asian games and one to mark Indian space research achievement.

Social action for church jubilee

Kottayam, (UNI) - A scheme to provide employment to one person each in a family is being implemented as part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Malankara Syrian Catholic Community (Reunion Movement) to be held at "Margivanios Nagar" (Nehru Stadium) here.

He told newsmen here that the scheme, spread over three years, was mainly meant for the 300,000-strong community.

The Archbishop of Trivandrum said a housing project to provide houses to the poor of the community was also planned.

He said a scheme called "health for a million" had already been initiated by the Church to provide medical care to one million people. One thousand village workers, functioning under its scheme, would visit the families and find out their health needs.

Mar Gregorios said the United Nations had evinced keen interest in this scheme and details of the scheme had already been submitted to the world body.

SPORTS

East and West zones have entered the finals of the national cricket tournament in New Delhi for the Duleep Trophy. The East had defeated the North and the West the Central zone respectively in the semi-finals.

CRICKET

India was beaten in the first cricket test against Australia by an innings and 4 runs at Sydney on January 4th. India scored only 201 in the first innings against Australia's 406.

UAE ban in India

Bombay, (UNI) - The Reserve Bank of India has authorised the Emirates Commercial Bank, United Arab Emirates, to undertake in this country all types of foreign exchange transactions in all permissible currencies.

The ECB's branch in India is its first to be set up overseas. It has already started operations in Bombay since December 9, but it would be formally inaugurated by the Maharashtra Chief Minister on December 22. The UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, Rashid Abdulla Rashid, who is currently on a visit to India, will be present on the occasion.

In its span of five years since its founding, ECB has built up a global network of banks at key business centres and established ties with prominent Gulf-based banks.

The opening of the Bombay branch of the Emirates Commercial Bank will facilitate the flow of petro-dollars to the Indian economy. It will also enable India to have better access to the emerging West Asian capital markets. The bank is said to be considering measures to enable third world countries to diversify their borrowings and to secure a valuable source of international finance.

The branch, besides being a conduct for petro-dollars in India will bring the UAE market to India's door-step. Indian business houses and exporters have already started exploring possibilities for boosting exports to the UAE and other Gulf countries with the assistance of selective and sophisticated booking

MP wants dowry

New Delhi, (UNI) - Mrs Pramila Dandavate, Janata Party M.P. from Bombay made a fervent appeal in the Lok Sabha (Lower House of the Indian Parliament) to make offering and extorting dowry a cognizable offence.

Many marriages have been wrecked in India and brides ill-treated (sometimes killed) on the ground of the dowry having been insufficient.

Moving a Private Member's Bill to seek relevant changes in the Dowry Prohibition Act 1961, Mrs. Dandavate said the present law was weak and seemed to have been enacted without sincerity.

She also wanted suitable changes in the Inheritance Act, the Hindu Marriage Act and the Corporate Tax Act to elevate the status of women in society.

Mrs. Dandavate appealed to the Prime Minister to come up with an official Bill for improving the health of the society.

Mrs. Dandavate said the dwindling number of women compared to men as reflected in latest Census figures (for 1970) was the direct result of their decline in status in the society. Girls were unwelcome from the very birth and were discriminated against in terms

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The branch, besides being a conduct for petro-dollars in India will bring the UAE market to India's door-step. Indian business houses and exporters have already started exploring possibilities for boosting exports to the UAE and other Gulf countries with the assistance of selective and sophisticated booking services offered by ECB.

A banking boom is on in West Asia and the UAE. In Abu Dhabi, banking which started in 1959 with the opening of a foreign bank office, has changed to modern, sophisticated systems.

Locally incorporated banks, along with their capital base, have gone in for increased presence abroad, serving as the country's fiscal arm in international financial centres.

There has been also a change in the handling of petro-dollars over the years. Unlike in the earlier years, when the Arabs were content to let the American and Europeans manage their money, the Arabian banks are now taking over control, by "refining" funds through their own financial institutions. One of the likely outlets for these funds is the flow of private industrial investment to the developing countries such as India.

The ECB, which is wholly owned by UAE nationals, has set up its main offices at Mina Zayed, Abu Dhabi and Ruwias.

The bank has spread with the emerging capital markets of the OPEC countries which are lush with petro-dollars. Keeping pace with the phenomenal expansion in their share of the world's financial resources, the Arab countries are building a new international banking system which can operate successfully in the Euromarkets. With these funds the Arab banks will be the richest financial institutions in the world.

ECB is also contemplating expansion of its network in India by opening branches in cities other than Bombay.

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Mrs. Dandavate said the dwindling number of women compared to men as reflected in latest Census figures (for 1970) was the direct result of their decline in status in the society. Girls were unwelcome from their very birth and were discriminated against in terms of health and education. This was reflected in high mortality rate and school drop-outs among girls.

The member said some concepts like "kanya-daan" which had prevailed from time immemorial had only perpetuated the discrimination. A girl was a non-entity, something meant to be given or gifted away under these customs.

Approving Mrs. Dandavate's sentiments, but opposing the Bill moved by her, Mrs Nirmala Kumari Shaktawat (Cong-I) said it would be difficult to identify a certain transaction as dowry.

What was the harm if the girl received dowry when the boy inherited the family property, she asked.

She feared that making dowry a cognizable offence would mean dragging the police and the courts in what is essentially a personal and family affair.

OIL PRICE HIKE TO COST INDIA 625 MILLION DOLLARS

Bali, (UNI) - India's crude oil import bill will go up by at least 625 million dollars annually as a result of the latest OPEC oil price hike announced here, according to authoritative oil industry sources.

Centenary of a gold mine

New Delhi, (UNI) - Bharat Gold Mines at Kolar Gold Fields, about 100 km from Bangalore in the central Indian State of Karnataka is currently celebrating 100 years of its existence.

In the past 100 years, the Kolar Gold Fields have yielded 785 tonnes of the metal worth over 15,000 million dollars. Last year the mines produced 1,650 kg of gold and in the current year the estimated production is 1,778 kg.

This is, however, nowhere near the world production which is about one million kg. South Africa, the Soviet Union, Canada and Australia contribute over 85 per cent to the world production.

In India, gold is produced in three states - Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar. While Bihar's contribution is the smallest, the bulk of the output comes from Karnataka which has two gold fields, Kolar and Hutti.

Gold mining in Kolar is confined to a small area of 16 sq. km. Yet its share in the total output is 75 per cent.

How to get tourists?

New Delhi, (UNI) - Efforts are under way to give additional incentives and fiscal relief to attract investment to the Indian hotel industry, Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation A. P. Sharma has said.

Mr. Sharma said a concept of travel circuits had been evolved and facilities would be provided in an integrated manner to all tourist centres falling within these circuits.

The minister said a recent meeting of State Tourism Ministers recommended the coordinated development of travel circuits to increase domestic as well as international tourism. Target was to attract at least thrice the number of tourists by 1990.

Details of the facilities could be worked on only after the plan outlays were finalised, Mr. Sharma said, but an expert group had been constituted to conduct a country-wide survey of accommodation requirements.

Mr. Sharma said the India Tourism Development Corporation was constructing a five star hotel with 500 rooms here at an estimated cost of 15 million dollars. It will also be providing consultancy services in Iraq and Tanzania.

NEWS SNIPPETS

COSTLY GRAIN

Udaipur (Rajasthan), (UNI) A single grain of rice was sold for 3125 dollars in an open auction here.

Carved on the grain were two Jain hymns, Namekar and Bhaktabhar. The hymns were inscribed on the grain by Mr. Bhanwarlal Khumawat, a noted artist.

The grain was purchased by Mr. C.L. Kothari, a native of Ahmedabad.

New Delhi - Rohini Hattangadi, who is portraying Kasturba (Gandhi's wife) in the Indo-British film on the life of the Mahatma, has spun 7,000 metres of Khadi (handweave) thread while rehersing for her part.

The Marathi stage actress has presented producer-director Sir Richard Attenborough with a khadi handkerchief out of the khadi spun by her.

The gift was made as a memento on the day the shooting for the film began in Delhi.

WALKER

New Delhi, (UNI) - Jeenabhai Navik, a 75-year-old Indian, has traversed the entire length of India from Kashmir to the southern tip, Kanyakumari, on foot.

Mr. Navik started his walking mission from Sankaracharya hills in Kashmir on April 30 and trekked 7,500 kms, covering on an average 40 kms a day.

He took about eight months to cover the whole distance.

INDIANS

New Delhi, (UNI) - About 11,000 Indians are reported to have returned home till November 30 from West Asia following the Iran-Iraq war.

They were mainly personnel of various public and private sector Indian enterprises or of foreign construction companies. Most of them are expected to return to their jobs when work on various projects is resumed.

FEDERATION

Amritsar (Punjab), (UNI) The All-India Sikh Students Federation has decided to start an agitation to demand permission to carry 'kirpan' (sword) while boarding international flights from airports in India. Under the Indian aviation rules, passengers are not permitted to carry weapons.

SAVINGS

New Delhi, (UNI) - The question of allowing Indian Nationals settled abroad and non-residents to invest in national savings certificates will be re-examined, Indian Finance Minister R. Venkataraman told the Parliament.

Mr. Venkataraman said Indians settled abroad wanted exemption from income tax for the interest earned on the investment.

"I will have to examine this", he said.

Rajya Sabha chairman in tears

By Our Correspondent

New Delhi: It was a happy day for the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, M. Hidayatullah. It was his birthday (December 17).

The leader of the House greeted him on his birthday and assured full cooperation in running the House. All the members invariably welcomed the greetings.

Within an hour the usual uproar was witnessed and the former Supreme Court judge tried to control the situation in his characteristic manner.

The Congress(I) member, N.K.P. Salve, told the Chairman not to deliver discourses and that the House "was not an orphanage of which he (Chairman) was Superintendent or a school of which he was headmaster."

Hurt by these remarks, Mr. Hidayatullah said "I shall see that I shall not be in the way of you all," and threw the gavel on the table and left the house in a huff.

Some members ran behind him persuading him to return. "He was in tears. I held his hand and pleaded with him to return to the House. After all it was his birthday today," said Mrs. Monika Das, a Congress(I) member.

The Chairman finally acceded to the request of the members who followed him to his chamber and returned to the House. Members from all sides spoke reiterating their confidence in him.

The following day Mr. Salve apologised for the incident in the House.

No ban on missionaries

New Delhi, (UNI) - Indian Minister of State for Home Affairs Yogendra Makwana has rejected in the Rajya Sabha the demand for banning the activities of certain missionary organisations in the country's tribal areas.

Replying to a spate of supplementaries protesting against the missionaries' activists, he said the ban would create more complications instead of solving the problem.

He, however, said the Government would not allow any activity by foreign agencies or missionaries detrimental to the national interest.

Mr. Makwana said the West Bengal Government had identified some nine organisations and had told them to shift their operations from the tribal areas.

A ruling party member wanted to know the number of foreign agencies working as socio-economic development organisations in the tribal belt.

The Minister promised to give the information later.

In reply to another question about the action the government proposed to curb the activities of these missionary agencies, the Minister said "appropriate action will be taken as and when activities of such organisations come to adverse notice".

TOBACCO GETS A GOOD CHIT

Lucknow, (UNI) - Chewing of tobacco, with or without shell lime, prevents dental caries, according to a study.

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TAKING STOCK

India and Indians are celebrating another Republic Day on the 26th of this month. The country has been free for over 33 years now, and India's accomplishments during this period has not been negligible in any of the economic, social and political areas.

Economically, a sound basis for industrial and agricultural development has been laid. Though the foundation is in place, there is not sufficient progress in the building up of the superstructure. Plans for development look good on paper but are not often translated into effective action. Organizing the nation for economic development has never been easy and there are many man-made impediments to such progress. A lot more pragmatism and energetic innovativeness are called for to make use of the country's natural and human resources for rapid economic expansion to better the lot of the masses.

Socially, there has been many welcome changes - too numerous to list - though there is a lot more to be accomplished. One need to realize here though that social changes take a somewhat longer period to be achieved. Education appears to be the key to this area.

Politically the maturity India has shown during the last three decades is admirable. Though democracy has not developed exactly the way it probably should have the democratic institutions are alive and well. One needs to realize that it is politics that often changes economic and social aspects of a nation's future. Also it is partly the slowness of democracy that sets the slow pace for economic and social change.

There is no denying the fact that there are many aspects of the country's development that could be speeded up, given more energetic leadership.

Security bill passed

New Delhi, (UNI) - The lower house of the Indian Parliament has approved the crucial National Security Bill, which empowers the government to detain any person without trial upto one year for acts "prejudicial to public interest" or against the Defence or security of the country.

The Opposition parties, which vehemently opposed the Bill and finally lost the battle by 74-190 votes.

The ruling Congress(I) enjoys a two-third majority in the 542-member house and there was no way the Opposition could have defeated the Bill.

Opposition members walked out of the house and tore up copies of the Bill in protest.

The Bill replaces the National Security Ordinance (NSO) promulgated in September, 1980.

Home Minister Zail Singh, however, has assured the members that the Bill would not be used to silence dissent.

The NSO, however, in the past few months was used to arrest several members of opposition parties in Bihar, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh, including a Marxist MP.

INDIAN BANK TO FINANCE JOINT PROJECTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Singapore, (UNI) - The State Bank of India could play a positive role in counselling Indian enterprenuers and financing viable joint projects in Southeast Asia, the outgoing Chief Manager N. Sivaramakrishnan has said.

Mr. Sivaramakrishnan said the SBI, which was the first Indian bank to start operation in Asian currency unit in Singapore three years ago had so far syndicated 175 million US dollar loans and assisted twenty Indian joint ventures in the region.

A cultural policy ...2

Excerpts from a presentation to the National Conference to the Canadian Consultative Council on Multiculturalism by Dr. Gurbachan S. Paul

New Ministry

What is needed is a new **Ministry of Culture** with the appropriate legislative powers incorporated in a parliamentary statute. The philosophical premise for creating such a Ministry which combines all aspects of culture is based on the assumption that culture is at the very core of human existence and we cannot begin to say that we treat all Canadians as equal, unless we actually accord equal treatment to each culture, no matter how numerous are its proponents. Social harmony will only exist when we take such a position and advance it with sincerity and vision.

The new Ministry would have four major divisions, the functions of which are not mutually exclusive. However, they need to be carefully separated from one another for administrative purposes. These divisions are:

1. The promotional and Growth Division
2. Official and Supplementary Languages Division
3. The Development Division
4. Preservation and Heritage Division.

The promotional and growth division in the Ministry of Culture would be responsible for encouraging excellence in all aspects of the Canadian cultural milieu. It is important to emphasize the equality of treatment that will be accorded to all cultures in terms of funding support. This division will become the funding agency for all activities pertaining to culture. Its funding policies and programs will promote all forms of arts and literature as well as facilitate appreciation of every culture in the Canadian mosaic. The people of Canada will have to be exposed to every culture with zest and determination, since this is the only means whereby we can rid ourselves of narrow ethno-centricism and petty racism.

The division of official and supplementary languages would promote and enforce the learning of official languages at the federal level and in all public areas such as airports, tourist centres, institutes of higher learning, etc. This division will also help promote the learning of supplementary languages where children of an ethnic group are in sufficient numbers and desire to learn their ancestral language.

The division of cultural development will assume responsibility for programs aimed at giving both "new" and "old" Canadians the necessary education, training, experience and psychological support needed to bring them closer to the rest of the society in terms of power and social status. One of the most important tasks of government in the proposed division should be to institute a policy to improve the social status of the "other ethnic groups". This division will also assume responsibility for programs such as human rights, race relations and immigration and settlement issues. In this process, it would be necessary to establish direct links to the Department of Indian Affairs and Native Development and the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission.

The division of Heritage Preservation would attempt to create a better understanding and appreciation among all Canadians, of all cultures in Canada through art galleries, heritage festivals, performing arts, exhibitions and displays.

The question will arise on the desirability of adding more bureaucrats to an already existing pool in order to preserve, uphold and promote culture. At the outset, at least, what is needed is not more civil servants but commitment on the part of government to stop treating culture as a political pacifier. When we say that "cultural identity is at the very core of human existence", what we are saying surely is that every aspect of life falls in place only after the basic cultural needs are satisfied. And, moreover, I believe this can be accomplished only by preservation, enhancement and development of cultural needs. In terms of political clout and profile in government, the implementation of this recommendation certainly means a much larger budgetary allocation, which will be government's way of showing the importance it places upon this aspect of people's lives.

Top-Down Approach

In summary, the above paper attempts to review the historical background and the present status of the multicultural policy. It then moves to suggesting future directions. In the latter, I believe, I have presented a viewpoint that will evoke several different reactions. In advancing the idea of a new Ministry of Culture, I realize that I have not said something new and unique. The idea has been toyed with several times during the last decade. However, having said that, I anticipate many will ask why the top-down approach to multiculturalism, when it should rightly come up from grass roots? Why is more government control the answer to an effective multicultural policy? I believe these are fair questions. The answers to these questions have to do with several hundred years of inequity which has to be drastically made up, before we can honestly say that all Canadians are equal. Through discussions, and through forums such as these, I believe we can move closer to that goal.

In closing, I would like to reiterate my philosophical premise and implore you to remember that human dignity and identity are inextricably interwoven with one's cultural heritage. Economic affluence is not the be-all and end-all of society - a fact we often remind ourselves of and then promptly forget in pursuit of more material and tangible well being.

Energy from sun

New Delhi (UNI) - In a world threatened by acute energy shortage, and with prospects of energy starvation looking menacingly ahead, Indian scientists are striving hard to bend their knowledge and skills to discovering new alternative sources of energy. The latest in this direction is a project for development of solar power in space and its conversion to electricity.

Internal studies are being carried out on the technical and economic feasibility of this concept. The idea is to establish a satellite in a geosynchronous orbit with a large photovoltaic array consisting of solar cells to convert solar energy to electricity. The electrical energy is then transmitted to earth in the form of microwaves or laser beams.

A study carried out by the NASA of the United States for a 5000 MW solar power satellite indicates that the satellite would require an array of solar cells of size 10.4 km by 5.2 km. The antenna to receive the microwave power on earth would be about 10 km in diameter. The capital costs of solar power satellites are estimated at least three to four times higher than terrestrial solar power systems.

The basic technology for direct conversion of solar energy into electricity by photovoltaic cells has already been developed in India. The Department of Science and Technology is trying to bring down the cost per peak of electricity by this method to a reasonable level.

This could be achieved by developing low cost solar grade silicon material and low-cost techniques of fabrication and by improving the efficiency of solar cells and panels.

The proposal envisages utilisation of photovoltaic systems to provide power for pumpsets for ensuring drinking water supply and minor irrigation as well as for community lighting and other applications.

Fall in Delhi crime rate

New Delhi, (UNI) - Delhi Police Commissioner P.S. Bhinder has claimed a distinct fall in the capital's crime rate.

Mr. Bhinder said the promulgation of the National Security Ordinance had resulted in a reversal in the trend of heinous crimes like murder. The NSO, however, was not of much help in checking crime against property as most of the criminals operating in Delhi did not stay here.

The crime statistics presented by Mr. Bhinder showed that 37,397 offences were registered under the Indian Penal Code in 1980 as compared to 43,819 in the previous year, showing a fifteen per cent decline in the crime rate.

While there were 61 dacoities in 1979, in the current year the figure was contained to 51. There was a three per cent fall in the incidence of murder and 52 per cent in the case of robberies.

Mr. Bhinder said warrants of arrest under the National Security Ordinance had been executed against 88 persons out of a total of 42.

KKK

By Maryka Omatsu

Maryka Omatsu, M. LL.B., is a Toronto law who also works for Canadian Human Right Commission.

When an organization the Ku Klux Klan, wh supports and promotes ra and fascist ideology, sets an office in Toronto, there cause for concern.

A close examination of history of the Klan in United States will, I thi provide us with greater sight as to how to deal w the Klan and with the gr ter problem of racism.

History of the Ku Klux Kl

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Adherents were attracted this vigilante organizati that espoused and practis violent tactics. The "orga ization" was anarchistic a local dens were uncontro able, to the extent that 1869 the Imperial Wizar General Forest, formally d banded the Ku Klux Klan Tennessee, Georgia, A bama, Mississippi, and A ansas. By this time, t estimated death toll w close to 1,000 Blacks w had died at the hand of t Klan.

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KKK and racism

By Maryka Omatsu

Maryka Omatsu, M.A., LL.B., is a Toronto lawyer who also works for the Canadian Human Rights Commission.

When an organization like the Ku Klux Klan, which supports and promotes racist and fascist ideology, sets up an office in Toronto, there is cause for concern.

A close examination of the history of the Klan in the United States will, I think, provide us with greater insight as to how to deal with the Klan and with the greater problem of racism.

History of the Ku Klux Klan

Ku Klux Klan originates from the Greek word for circle, Ku Klox.

Count Pulaski, a Pole, together with six others, founded the first den in 1865 in Tennessee near the Alabama border. It began as a white southern pro-Confederacy, anti-Republican organization whose goal was to frighten Blacks from voting.

Adherents were attracted to this vigilante organization that espoused and practised violent tactics. The "organization" was anarchistic and local dens were uncontrollable, to the extent that in 1869 the Imperial Wizard, General Forest, formally disbanded the Ku Klux Klan in Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas. By this time, the estimated death toll was close to 1,000 Blacks who had died at the hand of the Klan.

In 1871 martial law brought an "end" to the Klan. Six years later the "occupying army" of Northern Republican troops left Dixie. Southern whites began to relax as they realized that the recently emancipated slaves, who had been economically dependent and educationally deprived for centuries, were not the threat they had feared. The whites' fears and anxieties diminished, as did the Klan - which continued to exist primarily in legend.

In 1915 the Klan resurfaced under the leadership of Colonel William J. Simmons. As before, it was a white supremacist fraternal organization. This time, its following was the "God-fearing, white middle-class".

World War I had whipped up patriotic pride in "100 per cent Americanism". However, with the end of the war, European immigrants - Catholics and Jews - "poured" into the United States.

The 1917 Revolution in Russia raised the spectre of the "Bolshevik menace" and heightened fears of class warfare.

The Klan promised to protect the United States from "aliens, slackers, strike leaders and immoral leaders". These were turbulent and troubled times for a still largely agrarian America. The conservative values of the Klan attracted approximately three million members. In rural areas the lodge nature of the Klan was important for community social life. In small towns, next to the Church, the Klan was a centre of ritual, parades, parties and piesics.

The early twenties was to be the pinnacle of Klan popularity and power. They "controlled" several governors, senators, congressmen, as well as the police, fire departments, city councils and boards of education in many cities. In 1925, for example, one out of seven adults in Denver, Colorado was a member of the Klan.

This was the era of Prohibition and strict Puritanism was being preached from the pulpits of America. Methodist and Baptist ministers provided the Klan with moral leadership. During this period much of Klan violence was directed against whites, wife beaters, alcoholics and adulterers, as well as Blacks.

However, with the swelling of the ranks and the coffers, Klan violence increased. Klan leaders were increasingly being exposed as dictatorial, explosive, irrational and money hungry.

A Congressional inquiry was initiated and the Klan began to be the subject of investigation. In 1924, an Anti-Klan group won control of the state government of Louisiana. They passed legislation requiring the annual filing of membership lists, prohibiting the wearing of masks in public and making Klan activities felonies.

The Anti-Klan mayor of Boston did not allow the Klan to set up an office. Wherever the Klan attempted to rent space, the landlord would be deluged by fire, police and building inspectors, such that no landlord was prepared to have the Klan as a tenant.

In 1925, the Supreme Court of the United States held that the Klan was not a benevolent association, but a sales organization that would require government permission to do business and would be subject to the myriad of laws and regulations that regulate any business.

In 1928 the United States Supreme Court decided that the Klan had no constitutional right to secrecy and that, accordingly, their membership lists were open to government disclosure. This naturally resulted in a loss of members.

With the depression, the Klan shrank radically in size and became once more primarily a social organization. The Klan was still a white supremacist society, but it had also added as evils: unions, strikes, immigrants, communism, Roman Catholics and Jews.

The Klan's decidedly anti-labour views meant that people such as the miners in Kentucky and West Virginia, who might have been attracted to the Klan's white Protestant tenets, but who were also militant supporters of the United Mine Workers of America, would not join the Klan.

In 1940 the Klan made an alliance with the German-American bund. This was an important turning point and decidedly exposed the Klan as not only a racist, but a fascist organization.

In 1944 the Bureau of Internal Revenue sued the Klan for $685,000 in back taxes.

In 1946, after the end of World War II, the Klan was added to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's list of subversive organizations.

The Klan became increasingly parochial and failed to gain respectability. With F.B.I. surveillance and with no leader strong enough to unite the dens, the Klan was increasingly being marginalized.

With the 1954 Supreme Court decision that struck down public school segregation and the beginning of the civil rights movement, the Klan began to re-vitalize again. Because of the quasi-criminal nature that surrounded Klan activities and members, the Klan was not seen as a viable alternative for Americans who might have been attracted to the Klan's anti-Semitic, anti-Communist, anti-labour and pro-white supremacist views. Middle-class racists were attracted to the less violent White Citizens Councils, whilst the Klan's more virulent members were being jailed by the F.B.I. on charges of conspiracy. Accordingly, the Klan has never - to date - achieved the popular support or political power it had in the 1920's.

Reasons Why The Klan Has Declined

As long as the Klan was viewed as a violent - almost terrorist - organization, it has never developed into a mass movement.

The infiltration by the F.B.I. and the continual legal and governmental crackdowns scared off followers. Supreme Court decisions that held that the Klan was a "sales organization" and that the Klan had no constitutional right to keep its membership lists private turned away recruits who wanted to practise their racism in secret under the cloak of night.

The Klan's credibility was undermined by laws preventing Klan members from wearing masks in public; congressional investigations into Klan activities and finances; Klan anarchy; lack of strong central leadership and corruption.

Tactics On Dealing With The Klan

An examination of Klan history shows several things: that simply declaring an organization illegal does not end the organization (e.g. the Mafia); and that a small minority of Americans hold Klan views and have held these views since 1865 and that despite Government surveillance and "harrassment" there are Americans who support racist and fascist ideology.

Accordingly, simple solutions like outlawing the Klan or outlawing racism or fascism do not stamp out either the organization or the ideology.

The roots of the Klan are too pervasive in North America. Many of the values upon which this society is based support Klan ideology.

Thus, only long-term and far-reaching solutions can deal successfully with racism and fascism. Other methods are destined to fail and the Klan will simply re-surface in a different form.

Effective longterm solutions such as equal opportunities in employment, housing and services; anti-racist educational campaigns in the schools and media require constant pressure from a concerned citizenry.

Tactically, the Klan tries to win control of city councils, police and fire departments, and school boards. Candidates who support Klan ideology should be exposed and anti-Klan candidates should be supported and urged to seek public office.

To restrict Klan activities and to discourage membership growth means forcing the government to make the Klan illegal, forcing the government to infiltrate and place the Klan under surveillance, and forcing the government to use every legal mechanism to harrass the Klan.

Unfortunately, there is no one solution, nor are there simple solutions to racism. It requires broad societal concern and a commitment from everyone.

Changing centuries of attitudes and practice cannot be done overnight. Winning the "hearts and minds" of a people has never been easy.

(Contrast)

AUROVILLE

Communities of tomorrow ...2

Continued from last issue.

By Jerome C. Glenn

Auroville: Diversity and Karma

Auroville is an anthropologist's nightmare. The individuality of belief and behavior is extremely diverse for such a small group living in two dozen settlements scattered around the community.

As soon as one behavioral pattern appears clear and predictable, an observer suddenly encounters a group of Aurovilians behaving exactly opposite. For example, one gets a strong feeling of communal decision-making at the weekly community meeting, yet the next day a group will claim they do everything on their own, explaining they don't need anyone organizing their lives. Then there is the contrast of Auroelectronics, a company working on a minicomputer to measure cowhides, and employing 30 people in a rather high technology business. This is sharp contrast to a young couple three kilometers down the road who have nothing to do with "evil" technology. Since the old assumptions of culture are all in doubt, a strange mix is evolving in Auroville; nevertheless, some generalizations hold.

Aurovilians are tough pioneers and rugged individualists, seeking their self-discovery and spiritual path with guidance from the writings of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother. Anti-establishment and counterculture, they are nevertheless among the most tolerant people on the earth and their respect for each other's opinions and ways is inspiring. Once the suspicious exterior shown to strangers is broken, they are deeply sincere and spontaneously open and honest. They genuinely want to make a new beginning, and if it takes them a lifetime to do it, so be it.

In Auroville, the purpose of work is karma yoga. This means the discipline, of conscious self-correcting while observing the causes and effects on one's life. There should be no distinction between one's work and spiritual practice. It is not building houses or digging wells that is unique, but knowing that you and those you build with see themselves acting, noting the effects, then acting differently-all while building the house. Each self-correction is intended to spiritually advance an expanding consciousness. Hence, one should ask the question: "How can I build this house with my brothers and sisters in a way that will cause the greatest increase in Divine consciousness?" In the pre-industrial age before the Western concept of progress, one built a house as a ceremony. Therefore, one did it as correctly as possible, according to the training given. In the Industrial Age, however, one asked how to build a house more efficiently with less effort - hence, the rapid rate of change over the last 200 years.

But the Aurovilian sense of efficiency is completely different. It might be spiritually more efficient to take twice as much time and make three times as many construction mistakes because this develops a better insight into one's self. So the question, "How is Auroville doing?" is difficult to answer since it is believed only the Divine can judge how the collective yoga is doing. And progress in the yoga is the only real progress to Aurovilians.

Currently, community members are trying to change such entrenched human behaviors as hierarchical pecking order by strength, money, knowledge, and good looks; territoriality and the identification with physical objects as saying who one is; possessiveness of children; competition for resources with the status that goes with success; and male/female roles. There is even a strong movement away from sex for recreation. In many ways the culture is quite spartan and puritanical.

Traditional forms of religion are shunned. Dogma and rules of any kind are resented, especially in traditional religion. Yet people tend to follow the teachings of Sri Aurobindo and The Mother as best they can, like early Christians followed the teachings of Christ. One Aurovilian sees this more as a weakness in the community's human nature than as a reflection of the two teachers. It is quite normal to find pictures of The Mother

continued Page 8

Pak air base expansion

New Delhi, (UNI) - Pakistan has undertaken a massive programme of expansion of its air force bases and is planning to add five more squadrons of the latest fighter aircraft by the end of 1981.

According to military experts, Pakistan has secretly commissioned 12 air bases and is expanding facilities at several others. Together with the pre-1965 war bases and the post-1965 and post-1971 expansions and additions, the Pakistan Air Force now has 40 air bases, almost double the number in 1971.

Besides seven main air bases, Pakistan has set up a large number of emergency dispersal bases from where its aircraft can operate for short periods of one week to 10 days.

Pakistan has also installed the new Air Defence Ground Environment (ADGE) radar system which consists of six TPS-43 advanced three-dimensional mobile radars.

Pakistan is planning to raise three squadrons on the Fantan jets and two more squadrons of Mirage-111s.

The best Pakistani fighter pilots have been put in the fighter leader's course in which future PAF combat crew is trained. These pilots man half a squadron of MIG-19s and half a squadron of Mirages. These squadrons could at short notice be converted for operations.

The PAF has drawn up a four-point programme: to replace its obsolescent aircraft; to match the Indian Air Force re-equipment; to counter any threat from Pakistan's western borders, and to protect its nuclear facilities.

World Tamil Conference

Madurai (Tamil Nadu), (UNI) - This ancient south Indian city on the banks of the River Vaigai briefly recaptured its glorious past as a centre of Tamil cultural renaissance when it hosted the Fifth World Tamil Conference recently. For the Tamil-speaking people who pride in their Dravidian origin and culture, the event is of momentous consequence.

Madurai was the seat of the first and third of the three "sangham" (eras) which marked the effulgence of Tamil literature in ancient times.

Kapadapuram, the seat of the middle "sangham" has, according to hoary tradition, been lost to the sea.

Sages Agastya, Tholkappiar, Nakirar Devanayanar and saint Thiruvalluvar are some of the literary giants who lived in the Sangham epochs. Saint Thiruvalluvar is credited with composing the Tamil literary epic "Thirukkural" which embodies the wisdom of the ancient Tamils.

The World Tamil Conference, jointly sponsored by the International Institute of Tamil Studies, Madras, and the Tamil Nadu Government was aimed at strengthening the linguistic and cultural moorings of Tamils settled all over the globe.

More than 240 papers dealing with various facets of the Tamil language and culture were presented at the conference.

Earlier world Tamil conferences were held in Kuala Lampur (1966) Madras (1968), Paris (1970) and Colombo (1974).

Communities of tomorrow

(Continued from Page 5)

in homes and the workplace. Although The Mother said she did not want disciples, she called Aurovilians her "children." The major cultural force in the community, she gave general guidelines for everything, if not specific rules.

Much of the early culture in the beginning of Auroville could be termed "hippy" or "freak". But the years of backbreaking work have mellowed the culture and instilled a sense of responsibility that would earn the respect of a New York banker.

Exchange of spies

New Delhi, (UNI) - Pakistan ambassador to India, Abdul Sattar, has said that India and Pakistan are likely to exchange 20 alleged spies.

In an interview with the editor of Indian Weekly magazines "Tej" and "Sun", Mr. Sattar said there were nearly 500 Indians captive in Pakistani jails including smugglers, thieves and spies. Mr. Sattar said "the matter of spies is very sensitive, calling for delicate negotiations as secret service agencies like the Central Bureau of Investigation, Research and Analysis Wing and the Intelligence Bureau of both the countries are involved.

Afghan refugees

New Delhi, (UNI) - Nearly 3,000 Afghans have come to India in the last few months and the influx continues.

Most of them arrive from Pakistan as tourists and, once here, they apply to the United Nations for refugee status and throng Western Missions for visas.

The U.N. High Commissioner for refugees set up here some time ago, a temporary liaison office to process applications from the immigrants seeking refugee status.

"The trickle began about a year ago," the liaison official told UNI. That was around when the Soviet forces intervened in that land-locked country.

Since September, however, there has been a remarkable increase in the arrivals, the official said. "They probably think India a better launching pad since camps in Pakistan are already overcrowded."

The official said nearly 3,000 had so far applied to be treated as refugees and more than half of them had been granted that status.

An Afghan refugee source said about 6,000 Afghan men, women and children had arrived in India since December 1979. They included bureautrats, doctors, businessmen, engineers and students.

The liaison official said most of the Afghans were seeking refuge in the United States. Some had also applied to go to West Germany and France.

The official said the United States had responded to some requests recently and a group of 90 Afghans was flown there.

INDIA TO REDUCE IMPORTS

Madras, (UNI) - India has a long term strategy to deal with the country's mounting trade deficit by slashing imports of consumer goods and exporting foodgrains.

The Union Commerce Minister, Pranab Mukherjee said the imports of goods like edible oils, steel, aluminium and cement could be reduced.

Science in India

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Indian Institute of Technology here is engaged in a number of projects of national importance to ensure that India in no way lags behind in the latest developments in the field of Science and technology.

IIT has a project that aims at making the country self-reliant in the field of offshore structure engineering the director of the institute Dr O.P. Jain told newsmen here on the eve of the institute's annual convention.

This project relates to studies in rural development to ensure that the benefits of planning filter down to the people in the rural areas all over India. This project, Dr Jain said, is being conducted in three phases - the methodology of planning in the rural areas, creating new areas of employment by identifying existing resources like wild grass and weeds that can be put to commercial use, and by acting as clearing house for all information relating to rural development.

Dr. Jain said the institute had found and perfected a substitute for petrol. Working models of a two-wheel scooter, a car engine and a generating set run on alcohol and bio-gas was demonstrated before the newsmen here.

The Institute has thus succeeded in modifying an engine to run on a 100 per cent alcohol mix.

National Centre for Energy Studies, a wing of the IIT, is working on methods to conserve existing sources of energy by making more efficient use of them.

Another project being run in collaboration with the Defence Ministry, relates to Troposperic Communication, which is based on deflecting message-carrying waves off the ionsphere. "This technique can be applied in television transmission also as it would increase the range of a station," Dr. Jain said.

A significant area of activity at IIT is industrial consultancy. "We have always regarded this as the most effective means of promoting interaction between the Institute and the industry," Dr. Jain said.

Indian cosmonauts ready

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Indian Air Force (IAF) has trained a panel of some 10 officers for possible selection as cosmonauts in the joint Indo-Soviet space venture.

These officers have already passed through rigorous tests and training at various air force institutions, including the Institute of Aviation Medicine, Bangalore. The institute is the fourth of its kind in the world, the other three being located in the United States, the Soviet Union and France.

The officers have been drawn from various squadrons. All have flown supersonic aircraft at low and high altitudes with skill and understand the intricacies of various complex aerospace systems.

Now that the Government had given the go-ahead, these pilots are ready to leave for the Soviet Union for final selection. It is possible that their health and physical conditions may be examined in India also by visiting Soviet experts.

The Soviet Union has offered to take two spacemen from India initially, and then follow up the joint flights as agreed. This means that four of these officers are likely to be chosen for training, two of them as alternates.

At present, the Soviet Union is training French and East German cosmonauts for joint ventures with their countries. Vietnam has already availed itself of the offer.

ANNOUNCEMENT

India-Canada Association, Ottawa, invites everyone to celebrate India's 30th Republic day. A function is planned to be held on Saturday, January 31, 1981, between 5:30 - 7:30 at the National Archives building on Wellington Street.

WHEN IN DOUBT, DO NOT PARK!
EN CAS DE DOUTE, NE STATIONNEZ PAS!

Winter Parking Regulations

a) between 1 a.m. and 7 a.m.:
Winter parking is restricted to two hours anywhere in Ottawa until April first, or as declared by the Commissioner of Physical Environment.

b) between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.:
where there are no signs, parking is limited to three hours.

Snow Removal Operations

Parking so as to interfere with snow removal is prohibited, whether signs are posted or not. Usually, snow removal signs are placed on selected streets at least three hours prior to the commencement of operations. Obstructing vehicles will be ticketed and towed to a nearby location where they will not interfere.

Road Conditions

The City makes every effort to provide radio and television reports on the latest conditions during snow storms. As these reports are given at frequent intervals, we ask you not to call the City or the Police, as you will only tie up emergency lines.

City of Ottawa

Règlements au sujet du stationnement d'hiver

a) entre 1h00 et 7h00:
le stationnement sur la rue est limité à deux heures partout à Ottawa jusqu'au 1er avril, ou tel que déclaré par le Commissaire à l'Environnement.

b) entre 7h00 et 19h00:
où il n'y a pas d'enseigne, le stationnement est limité à trois heures.

Travaux d'enlèvement de la neige

Le stationnement nuisant à l'enlèvement de la neige est interdit, que les enseignes y soient ou non. Ordinairement, des enseignes "enlèvement de la neige" sont placées sur les rues sélectionnées au moins trois heures avant le commencement des travaux. Les véhicules encombrant recevront une contravention et seront remorqués à un endroit près où ils n'encombreront pas.

État des routes

La Ville fait son possible pour fournir des rapports à la radio et à la télévision sur l'état des routes lors de tempêtes de neige. Comme ces rapports sont donnés à fréquents intervalles, nous vous demandons de ne pas téléphoner à la Ville ou à la Police, car vous vous servez alors des lignes d'urgence.

Ville d'Ottawa

FILMS

SAAJAN MERE, MAIN SAAJAN KI

Directed by Hiren Nag
Produced by Ramraj Nahta

Hiren Nag is an entertainer of conservative school. He believes in clean, neat films, domestic fare of everyday life in middle-class families. At times his films remind one of the Golden Age of Indian cinema. The chunk of life he presents in **Saajan Mere, Main Saajan Ki** is real and known, so there is not much originality about it. Yet the film is not banal, as real-life presentation on screen sometimes is. Its treatment has a certain freshness about it, and one feels involved in the proceedings. One cannot deny certain dramatic exaggerations and a few odd characters but all within the probable.

The focus is on two brothers, two different life styles, two different approaches to romance and matrimony - one serious and sober, the other flamboyant and fun-loving; one an asset to the family, the other a problem. The big problem he creates is that he persuades a simple maid-servant to pose as his fiancee to save him from a tricky situation. The girl who first takes it seriously quits but only to win him over with the help of his sober brother.

Going by the plot and directorial treatment, the title **Saajan Mere, Main Saajan Ki** seems odd. The boy flirts with numerous girls and never shows interest in the simple maid. However, if one looks at it from the girl's point of view, the title may seem to be apt; she is shown to have a fasination for him from the very opening scene when she takes the morning tea to his bedroom.

Rameshwari, who shot into prominence with her first film - **Dulhan Wohi Jo Piya Man Bhayee** - has a very expressive face. She is not a dream girl, she is not a beauty queen either but she has fetching looks. In dramatic moments she is superb. She brings to her role a cautious approach. Raj Kiran acts the fun-loving playboy with flourish. But it is Raj Babbar, playing the serious brother, who tops in acting honours. His contribution to his debut-making film, **Sau Din Saas Ke**, was almost nil. With a somewhat stern but pleasant bearing, he interprets his character in **Saajan Mere** with the skill of a veteran. His is a character role a rising star would not accept, and if he accepts would not be able to do justice to it. But Raj Babbar infuses the fair-and-square youngman's part with elegance and moderation.

Madan Puri plays a domesticated husband - so unlike his screen image of a vilain. Deena Pathak is a thespian of extraordinary calibre. Her stern mother in the film is a delight to watch.

Shashikala's fluidity to mould herself into "vampish" roles is immense. Kajal Kiran as the anglicised mod girl is tolerable. Most impressive of them all is Ashok Kumar in a cameo role.

FILMS

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Directed by Hiren Nag
Produced by Ramraj Nahta

Hiren Nag is an entertainer of conservative school. He believes in clean, neat films, domestic fare of everyday life in middle-class families. At times his films remind one of the Golden Age of Indian cinema. The chunk of life he presents in **Saajan Mere, Main Saajan Ki** is real and known, so there is not much originality about it. Yet the film is not banal, as real-life presentation on screen sometimes is. Its treatment has a certain freshness about it, and one feels involved in the proceedings. One cannot deny certain dramatic exaggerations and a few odd characters but all within the probable.

The focus is on two brothers, two different life styles, two different approaches to romance and matrimony — one serious and sober, the other flamboyant and fun-loving; one an asset to the family, the other a problem. The big problem he creates is that he persuades a simple maid-servant to pose as his fiancee to save him from a tricky situation. The girl who first takes it seriously quits but only to win him over with the help of his sober brother.

Going by the plot and directorial treatment, the title **Saajan Mere, Main Saajan Ki** seems odd. The boy flirts with numerous girls and never shows interest in the simple maid. However, if one looks at it from the girl's point of view, the title may seem to be apt; she is shown to have a fasination for him from the very opening scene when she takes the morning tea to his bedroom.

Rameshwari, who shot into prominence with her first film **Dulhan Wohi Jo Piya Man Bhayee**, has a very expressive face. She is not a dream girl, she is not a beauty queen either but she has fetching looks. In dramatic moments she is superb. She brings to her role a cautious approach. Raj Kiran acts the fun-loving playboy with flourish. But it is Raj Babbar, playing the serious brother, who rops in acting honours. His contribution to his debut-making film, **Sau Din Saas Ke**, was almost nil. With a somewhat stern but pleasant bearing, he interprets his character in **Saajan Mere** with the skill of a veteran. His is a character role a rising star would not accept, and if he accepts would not be able to do justice to it. But Raj Babbar infuses the fair-and-square youngman's part with elegance and moderation.

Madan Puri plays a domesticated husband - so unlike his screen image of a vilain. Deena Pathak is a thespian of extraordinary calibre. Her stern mother in the film is a delight to watch.

Shashikala's fluidity to mould herself into "vampish" roles is immense. Kajal Kiran as the anglicised mod girl is tolerable. Most impressive of them all is Ashok [illegible] with the good things of life. It is a mystery, how he gives stylistic flair and dramatic effect even to his nondescript characters. Ashok Kumar is not just an actor, he is an institution. He has maintained his lustrous prestige over 45 years or more, by graduating from the romantic, villainish to character roles. May he continue to brighten the screen for many more years to come.

DARSHAK in Democratic [illegible]

CHIRUTHA

Directed, edited and produced by Tanvir Ahmed

The film is based on Thakazhi Siva Sankar Pillai's Malayalam novel **Two Measures of Rice** which has been translated into many Indian languages, like his earlier **Chemeen**, (which was about the life of fishermen on the Kerala coast). Ramu Kariat's screen version of **Chemeen** was a remarkable, award winning transcription on the celluloid. **Chirutha** may not be visually as powerful as **Chemeen** (the locales differ) yet it does not fail to catch in abundance the natural scenic beauty of Kerala backwaters (Kuttanad village). There is a conscious attempt to integrate the landscape with dramatic happenings in the plot.

Chirutha's theme is exploitation of the landless, in a feudalistic rural society. But it could be read as a love story, love between a landless labourer and his young wife. It also tells of the friendship of another landless labourer who supports the wife and child of his unfortunate colleague who is undergoing imprisonment for ten long years for killing a bad character attempting to rape his wife. The build-up of the plot up to the climax-imprisonment of the landless-is dramatic but the epilogue looks imposed. It was not necessary to narrate the novel's full theme: the landless labourer's reunion with his wife and child. The film's dramatic end with the wife walking away from the jail after rejecting her jailed husband's suggestion to her to marry his best friend would have been better without the addition of the epilogue.

One cannot, however, deny the sincerity of the film-makers. The characters look real-shown as they are with human frailties. The narrative points to "the still sad music of diverse humanity and exploitation." Tanvir Ahmed keeps the drama pitched to surface tones, never overtones even when the landless labourer's wife is being brutally manhandled in a rape attempt. Colour cinematography by Adeep Tandon is good in parts and Salil Chowdhry's music does not necessarily intrude upon the visuals.

Tanvir Ahmed, by training, is editor and has worked with Basu Bhattacharya on many of his films. With **Chirutha** he is not so strict, maybe he is in love with his own "creations" and intentionally wants to put so much in the film. Maybe he wants to focus as much on the human drama as on nature. As a first directorial venture, **Chirutha** is a promising accomplishment.

Tanvir Ahmed is not the first Hindi film editor to direct a film. Hrishikesh Mukherjee graduated from the cutting room to the director's megaphone. Aruna of Aruna-Vikash fame also, by training, is an editor. The late Pran Mehra, a famous editor of commercial Hindi cinema, would have also turned a director had he not abandoned his film, he started directing, midway.

Deepti Naval plays the female lead character. Her **Chirutha** role-a rural woman, steeped in poverty, speaking Bihari dialect-is so different from her sophisticate star wife in **Ek Baar Phir**. These two films of her show that she is an actress of varied histrionics. Her eyes are her great asset, they speak volumes. It would not be a surprise if she won the best actress award for her **Chirutha** role from private and governmental award-giving bodies.

[Darshak in Democratic

RAM BALRAM

Edited and directed by Vijay Anand
Produced by Tito

Vijay Anand, brother of Dev Anand and Chetan Anand, represents a rare breed of film-makers. He combines in himself many parts - actor, director, editor and screen-play writer. In **Ram Balram** he is dialogue writer too, along with Kamleshwar who has written the film's story. Before the release of the film, Vijay Anand sees to it that it has everything in it to make it a commercial hit-as most of his films have been so far. He is a technician par excellence, his shot-taking is extraordinary-from unusual angles, and sometimes complicated camera movements. As an actor, he plays sober, serious and straightforward roles. When it comes to direction, he is loud, melodramatic and out and out commercial. Of the films he has directed so far, Vijay Anand has made only two, socially relevant films: **Guide** [the Hindi version] and **Tere Mere Sapne**.

Ram Balram is a commercial film in tune with the trend of the time- action, more action, crime and drama of two cousins at cross purposes. Sorry, the cousins in the film are not at corss purpose, though their professions are: Robber and police inspector. They are actually in league with each other to amass as much money as possible, not for themselves but for a crude character who had brought them up as orphans and trained them in their different professions. He keeps them under his thumb, rather like the two stumps he walks with as a lame man. He ruthlessly exploits them and they meekly obey him till it is revealed to them that he is the murderer of their fathers. Then they let loose hell on him and his collaborators.

After **Sholay**, this is the first time that Dharmendra and Amitabh Bachchan are teamed together. Amitabh has come to click only when he plays an angry youngman which he does (as police inspector) with his usual elan. But the audience's sympathy is with Dharmendra, the robber-cousin, for his daring and comic sense.

Between Zeenat Aman and Rekha, I would prefer Rekha as an actress, not just for her girlish charm but for the natural ease and spontaneity with which she acts. Zeenat Aman seems to be acting consciously.

Amjad Khan is not as powerful a character as he was in **Sholay** (trigger-happy Gabbar Singh) or even in **Qurbani** (gum-chewing police inspector). Utpal Dutt has a nondescript role. One-time leading man Ranjan, now old but alert and erect, plays an intriguing character, a source of revelation in the finale. Asit Sen's comic policeman is quite interesting.

The late Fali Mistry had done a formidable job in photographing **Ram Balram** in style and dexterity. Laxmikant Pyarelal's tunes are amusing though not extraordinary.

[Darshak in Democratic World]

More countries in film festival

As the only country in the Asian region to host a Class One international film festival, India has taken upon itself the task of encouraging the cinema in the third world. This role will fulfill, substantially if not in full measure, during the coming festival.

Of the 61 countries, the highest number to participate in an Indian Film Festival so far, a majority are from the third world.

For most of these countries, India is a major film exporter. Imports, however, have been negligible. This is a point on which India has often been criticised, not quite unjustifiably.

Third world participation is a measure of the interest shown by the film-makers in these countries in India which, quantitywise, is the world's largest maker of motion pictures. The quality also has not been poor, at least from the point of view of the third world countries.

Egypt has been a traditional participant in Indian Film Festivals right from the first one held in 1952. It has come up with half a dozen of its best films in the festival this time.

In spite of the continuing armed conflict, both Iran and Iraq are participating in the festival.

Bahrain, Syria and Vietnam have entered the Indian competitive festival for the first time. Besides, Ghana has entered its first feature film. India's close neighbours, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal, are all participating.

The Eighth Festival will have 80 films which have already been acclaimed critically in festivals elsewhere. Eight of them are winners of the Grand Prix. The include "Acocalypse Now" (USA) of Francis Ford Coppola,

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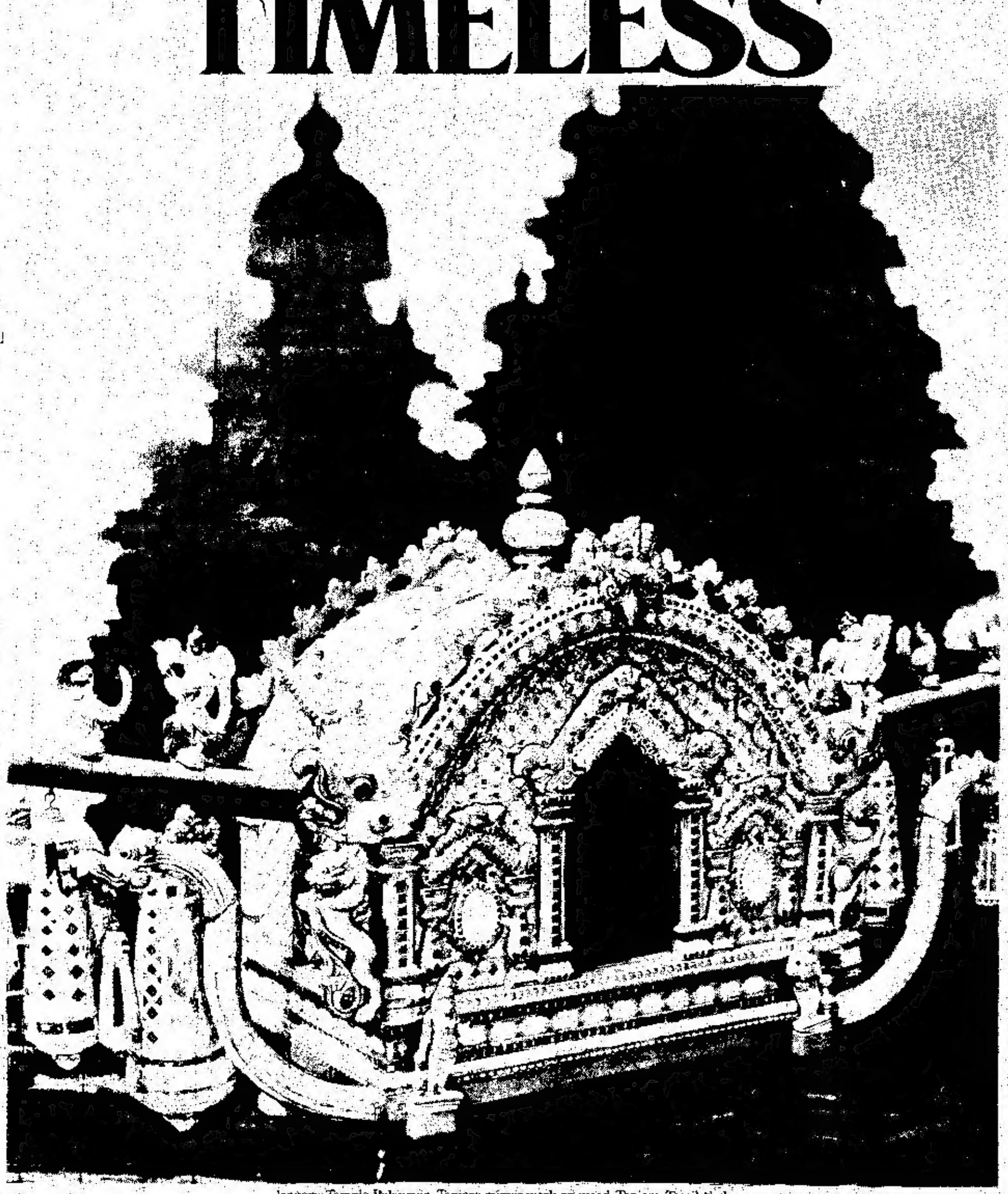

January-Temple Palanquin, Tanjore mirror work on wood, Tanjore, Tamil Nadu

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Quake tren preventabl

By Thomas Panakal

Montreal: An Indian engineer in Montreal believes that he has an effective method to prevent the loss of life and property damage caused by earthquakes. The new method is similar to an automobile brake lining pad.

Born in Punjab, Avtar Pall, is a senior structural engineer working for the Montreal based S.N.C. Group. According to Pall, the present earthquake resistant building methods rely on the ductibility of various building materials.

The Indian engineer's concept is based on regulating the impact of the earthquake's shock or seismic energy and consuming the energy mechanic ally in the building. Avtar Pall says that people stop a car by applying brake rather than by hitting something and that motion can be slowed down by means of friction.

Pall's idea is to install what he terms friction devices in strategic building joints to make the building flexible. The friction device is a brake lining pad made from asbestos fibre and metal particles. His method would absorb shock resulting from earthquakes.

Descon International Ltee., a Montreal firm which has

Power from

Panaji (Goa), (UNI) - A realistic assessment through proper investigation for generating tidal power from potential sites in different parts in India - the Gulf of Cambay (near Gujarat), Kutch and Sunderbans (East Bengal) has been suggested by G. Puttaramaiah, a scientist of the Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune in the Western Indian state of Maharashtra.

Participating in the National Workshop on Energy from the Sea organised by the National Institute of Ocean-

Another i

Kothagudem (Andhra Pradesh), (UNI) - India's first sponge iron plant using entirely non-coking coal has been inaugurated by Vice-President M. Hidayatullah at Paloncha.

The commissioning of the demonstration plant marks a break-through in steel technology. Indian Union minister for steel and mines Pranab Kumar Mukherjee, speaking on the occasion said a decision would be taken soon whether to set up raw material-based large scale sponge iron plants close to arc furnace units to overcome transport problems.

Import of steel melting scrap to meet the needs of mini-steel plants could not be a permanent solution to the problem of scrap shortage. Sponge iron as a substitute for steel scrap was therefore of great significance.

The Sponge Iron India Ltd. is a joint venture of the Government of Andhra Pradesh and had come about with

Quake tremors preventable

By Thomas Panakal

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Descon International Ltee., a Montreal firm which has developed a method using concrete slabs has bought world wide rights from Pall who has applied for patents on the new device for steel and other buildings. Meanwhile, Descon is negotiating with a number of countries in order to introduce its method, including Avtar Pall's friction method, for houses and hospitals.

In building using steel frames friction devices would be installed in the bracing system. The pad is placed between the two meeting braces which are bolted together. Steel-framed buildings are quite popular in Canada and the United States.

There has been considerable interest in Pall's device after the recent severe earthquakes in Italy, Mexico and Iran. Earthquakes in these countries have killed thousands of people, besides causing millions of dollars in damage. The new device could save the lives of numerous people in the future.

The current building codes in Canada call for earthquake resistant structures in areas prone to strong earth tremors such as Vancouver. But such requirements are rarely enforced.

The 41-year-old Avtar Pall came to Montreal five years ago.

Power from tides

Panaji (Goa), (UNI) - A realistic assessment through proper investigation for generating tidal power from potential sites in different parts in India, the Gulf of Cambay (near Gujarat), Kutch and Sunderbans (East Bengal) has been suggested by G. Puttaramaiah, a scientist of the Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune in the Western Indian state of Maharashtra.

Participating in the National Workshop on Energy from the Sea organised by the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) which concluded here recently, Mr. Puttaramaiah said there was a need to intensify the research in collecting data on waves, tides, currents, salinity, wind sediment and bathometry.

The study also revealed that a dam in one estuary in the Gulf of Cambay and the Gulf of Kitch because of their proximity to each other.

It would be necessary to study the problem using the model of the Gulf of Cambay and the Gulf of Kitch, he said.

Another iron plant in AP

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The Sponge Iron India Ltd. is a joint venture of the Government of Andhra Pradesh and had come about with the active collaboration of the United Nations Development Organisation (UNIDO).

The demonstration plant will turn out 30,000 tons of sponge iron annually, it will also operate a well-equipped and staffed laboratory where specialised facilities are available for conducting studies on laboratory bench scale testing and investigations of physical and metallurgical characteristics of various raw materials.

Training will figure prominently at Kothagudam

Wage paradox

New Delhi, (UNI) - Strange as it may seem, Indian seamen working in British ships do not want to be paid the high wages their British counterparts earn.

When the Indian Seamen's Union itself does not want equalisation of wages their foreign colleagues get, what can the Indian Government do, Indian Shipping and Transport Minister Veerendra Patil told Parliament when an opposition member sought to make out a case of "racial discrimination" by the British shipowners.

Mr. Patil said the Government of India had nothing to do with the matter as the wage terms and service conditions of all Indian foreign-going seamen, whether serving on Indian or foreign flag vessels were decided by the National Maritime Board, a bipartite machinery comprising representative of Indian shipowners and seamen. British shipowners were also associated with the board since about 6,000 Indian seamen were employed on British vessels.

Volunteers wanted

(FIA) Employment Council seeks volunteers who can counsel job seekers in the community. Counselors are needed in the following fields: accounting, education, engineering, medicine and dentistry, nursing, social services, various training programs and examinations. In the FIA Employment Council meeting held on January 3rd, it has been felt that there is a severe unemployment and underemployment in the Indian community especially in the newly arriving immigrants. As an immediate help, the Employment Council is developing a list potential people from the community who can help in locating jobs. If you are one of them, please call Jagat Motwani at (212) 224-4937

No Air India expansion

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Indian Government is unlikely to permit Air India to expand its fleet in the next few years.

The Government has taken a firm stand in this regard after seeing Air India's inability to compete with other international airlines.

At present, the airline has a fleet of 10 Boeing 747s and nine Boeing 707s, two of which are used only for ferrying cargo.

At the end of last year, Air India had decided to go in for the twin-engine Airbus with a view to having commonality in maintenance and crew training with the Indian Airlines (domestic). However, a few months ago, it gave up this preference to consider afresh the induction of three-engined U.S.-built MacDonnel Douglas DC-10 and Lockheed Tristar. Both these companies have since been competing to sell their aircraft to India.

But this proposal too was shelved as the Government's approval was not received.

While the government realises that the airline has to phase out the fuel-guzzling Boeing 707s, which belong to the 1960s generation, it has stressed that the airline prove itself commercially and removes some of the shortcomings.

Architect wins award

Mohindra Kawlra, is a practicing design architect in New York City and is the first Indian to win the prestigious First Prize Award given by the Chamber of Commerce of the Borough of Queens. The annual award is presented by the Chamber "for excellence of design, construction and civic value".

Kawlra received the award for the design and construction of the corporate offices of Taj Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Co. According to the architect, his primary aim was to create an "interior and exterior totality of image which would represent vigor and efficiency of a corporate structure without conflicting with the residential character of the neighborhood".

Kawlra, who has resided and worked in New York since 1963, believes the diversity of his background was responsible for the recognition of his design creativity, having studied and worked in India, U.K., and France before moving to the U.S.A. Prior to branching out on his own he worked with well-known architects, such as Le Corbusier, Edward Durrell Stone, and on the city master plan of Paris with Morris Rotival. His design work has ranged from creating intimate environments for homes and restaurants to working on large institutional projects for the Port Authority of New York and the massive Heathrow Airport complex in London.

M.N. Kawlra

ANNOUNCEMENT

Vancouver: A new organisation called the British Columbia Organisation to Fight Racism (BCOFR) has been formed. It hopes to organise resistance to racism not only in B.C. but across Canada. It has plans to carry out the objectives through educational and political activities - and will also take legal action to protect the rights of victims.

It has taken actions to have groups such as Ku Klux Klan banned in B.C.

Charan Gill was elected president. Lloyd Ingram, Harinder Mahil and Ms. Rosalee Tizya were elected Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer respectively. The following are members-at-large.

Reynold Boyce
Ms. Judy Cavanagh,
Manoj Das,
Jon Hall
Stuart Rush
Dr. Hari Sharma
and Tim Stanley.

Mr. Brezhnev and members of his delegation at the Delhi Airport with the Indian Prime Minister, President, Cabinet Ministers and diplomats

KITCHEN KORNER

By Pranati SenGupta

India is a land of spices. It was the spices which attracted explorers and traders to India's shores. India had a number of immigrants and invaders from across the border. The invaders came from everywhere, from the North and the North-West, from the East and the West Coast. They were the Aryans, the Greeks, the Persians, the Afghans, the Babylonians, all came through the mountain passes and the French and the British, the Dutch and the Portugese came by sea. Food is the centre of all life and culture revolves around it. These invaders brought their own traditional dishes with them and gradually their gastronomic culture blended with other settlers who had already preceded them. But the Hindus tried hard not to lose their identities and accepted only those they thought would blend with their own. Fortunately under the British rule they had complete freedom of their religious and cultural life.

In the kitchens all over the country Indian women continued to take pride in preserving the traditions of the past. The cooking habits of a particular region of India were governed by the background of the settlers as well as by the natural food resources afforded by the georgraphy and climate of that region. Modern Indian cooking is the result of contributions of many nationalities and cultures. The following Persian appetizer, adapted by Indians, is really rich and delicious. It is made with roasted eggplant and sour cream. You may serve it as a dip or with Indian bread. In India yogurt-cheese (drained yogurt) is used instead of sour cream.

Eggplant Raita

2 medium sized eggplants, about 1½ pounds total weight
2 tbsp. minced green onion (white part only)
1 large clove garlic, minced
1 tsp. finely chopped gingerroot
2 tbsp. chopped coriander leaves
1 cup sour cream or drained yogurt
2 tbsp. ghee or oil
1/3 cup finely chopped onion
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
Pinch of sugar
½ cup finely chopped green pepper or celery
½ cup peeled, seeded fresh tomato, cut into small cubes

Preheat the oven to 400F. Cut the eggplants about 1 inch deep in several places with a small knife. Rub with oil. Bake about one hour or until eggplants are collapsed. Let cool in the oven.

Split the eggplants and scrape out the pulp. Drain the liquid. Put pulp through a food processor or chop it finely. There should be about two cups. Put it in a bowl. Heat one frying pan and fry 1/3 cup chopped onion until golden brown. Add eggplant pulp to the pan. Stir and fry for few minutes until most of the moisture evaporates and makes very thick consistency. Remove from heat and let it cool. Add remaining ingredients. Mix well and chill. Serve with buttered toast or broken chapaties.

Drained Yogurt: Line a colander with cheesecloth and spoon yogurt into it. Bring up the edges of the cheesecloth and tie the ends with string. Hang the cheesecloth bag in the refrigerator, letting the yogurt drip into a bowl. Let stand overnight. If you are using drained yogurt then add 2 tbsp. fresh lemon juice with the yogurt.

No plan to destabilise Pak

New Delhi, (UNI) - Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has said that India "was not interested" in destabilising Pakistan but expressed that the leadership there might divert the attention of its people towards India and for that India was always there.

Presiding over the consultative committee meeting of the Ministry of Defence, Mrs Gandhi said that a number of developments had taken place around India in the recent past and they had a direct bearing on the security of the country. This brought big power confrontation into India's immediate neighbourhood and had a destabilising effect both in south-east and south-west Asia. There were signs of re-emergence of cold war postures, she said.

Referring to the Gulf war, Mrs. Gandhi said that liaison between Pakistan and West Asian countries did not make much difference to the geo-political situation in the Gulf. "We are aware of the link up in the Gulf states and the dangers which resulted from it. The situation in the Gulf was unstable even before the Iran-Iraq war", she stated.

Mrs Gandhi said that while building up indigenous production, India must go all out to get the latest technology and try to fill the gap in the field of scientific knowledge. She however said that India must strengthen conventional weapons and said "We are keeping a watch on the new developments, including nuclear, taking place around us".

They were elected

INDIA ASSOCIATION, MCMASTER UNIVERSITY HAMILTON, ONTARIO

President - **Pankaj Tandan**
Vice President - **Mrs. Kiran Bhutani**
General Secretary - **Deepak Mehrotra**
Cultural Secretary - **Amitabh Gupta**
Sports Secretary - **Miss Mukta Rajadhyaksha**
Treasurer - **Vinti Sansanwal.**

Huge loan from World Bank

New Delhi (UNI) - The World Bank will give a loan of 400 million dollars to assist India's efforts to increase petroleum production.

A bank release here said today that the loan - the largest single operation for the bank - would help finance the foreign exchange cost of the development of the Bombay High oil and gas field.

The loan is the second from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for India's petroleum sector. The bank had given a loan of 150 million dollars in 1977 for Bombay High Phase III.

The new loan is for 20 years, including five years of grace. It will carry interest at the rate of 9.25 per cent per annum. It will be passed on to the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) with the same maturity and grace period, but at 10.75 per cent annual interest.

The 8.23.2 million dollar project will help complete the development of the Southern and Central areas of the Bombay High field, and thus help it achieve a production potential of 240,000 barrels a day by the middle of 1982. The principal components of the project are: drilling of 64 development wells, construction and installation of 15 production platforms, construction and installation of a three-deck procession platform - Bombay High South - and a separate living quarters platform.

The project also includes about 133 kilometers of subsea flow lines, expansion of shore facilities, extension of telemetry and telecontrol installations, and engineering, technical services and reservoir consultancies.

The World Bank and IDA have been associated with the development of India's energy sector since 1950. The two institutions have made loans and credits totalling 1,504 million dollars for power generation and transmission and two loans totalling 47.4 million dollars for coal production.

The earlier loan of 150 million dollars was for the project covering production wells, production and production processing platforms with a combined capacity of 180,000 barrels per day and ancilliary facilities. That project is expected to be completed later this month.

More five star hotels

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Indian Government has decided to lift the ban on the State-owned Indian Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) setting up five-star hotels in the country.

This also removes the anomaly between the private and public sectors so far as the hotel industry is concerned as no such ban exists for the private sector.

ITDC had been pleading with the government to allow it to expand by setting up five star hotels to enable it to generate enough profits to build low-budget hotels to promote domestic tourism.

Japan leads USA

New Delhi, (UNI) - Japan may soon emerge the world's leading steel producer, displacing the United States.

Japan's raw steel output is estimated to be about 111.7 million tonnes while the US steel production is likely to drop by about 21 per cent from last year's production and be about 98 million tonnes.

A glut in the steel market has led the countries to revise their production plan for December. According to one estimate the world steel making capacity is around 60 to 80 million tonnes in excess of the demand.

IRAN OFFERS ADDITIONAL CRUDE TO INDIA

New Delhi, (UNI) - Even though Iran is embroiled in a major war with its neighbour, it has agreed not only to maintain the present level of crude supply to India during the next year but has offered to increase it by one million tonnes.

The current year's offtake too from Iran is expected to be more than the committed 5 million tonnes. India has already lifted the entire quantity. Iran has now asked India to lift as much as it can.

It is understood, India may lift at least 3 to 4 million tonnes during the current month. The crude is supplied from Lavan Island. In the current year Iran has been the second biggest supplier to India after Iraq which supplied 6 million tonnes.

More oil exploration

New Delhi, (UNI) - Foreign Oil companies which have been offered blocks for oil exploration in India would start work in the 1981-82 field season.

The 35 shortlisted foreign firms including the internationally renowned companies grouped as the 'Seven Sisters' are expected to submit their specific bids by the end of March.

This was disclosed by the Indian Petroleum Minister P.C. Sethi, who told members of the Consultative Committee attached to his Ministry that 17 off-shore and 15-on-shore blocks had been offered for exploration and the short-listed foreign firms had been contacted in this connection.

Technical discussions between the foreign parties and the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) experts on the blocks offered to them are expected to be completed by January 15 after which the parties would be asked to submit their bids.

ONGC is giving the highest priority to exploration and to bringing the discovered Indian oil fields into production at the earliest. Its capabilities are being further supplemented by obtaining consultancy services abroad.

More foreign collaborations

New Delhi, (UNI) - A record number of industrial licenses and foreign collaboration proposals have been approved by the Indian Government during first eleven months of 1980.

About 450 new industrial licenses have been issued. This compares with 324 licenses issued in the same period last year.

The number of foreign collaborations approved by the government till November, 1980 stood at 444 as against 267 for 1979.

The industry ministry has, however, made it clear that these foreign collaborations have been secured mainly in high technology areas such as industrial machinery, electrical equipment, transportation, machine tools, mechanical, metallurgical and chemical industries.

Therefore, the main suppliers of technology under these collaboration approvals are the highly developed countries of the United States, the United Kingdom, West Germany and Japan which have also offered sizeable equity investments.

Indian know-how offered

New Delhi, (UNI) - India's technological assistance is being offered to rubber producing countries in developing manufacturing industries using rubber. The funding of the aid project is likely to be undertaken by the Economic and Social Council for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). This was agreed upon at the meeting of the Association of Rubber Producing Countries held here recently.

ESCAP had already agreed to finance the projects sponsored by the association relating to improvement of natural rubber statistics, processing and marketing of rubber produced by small holders, and determination of maximum production potential.

The association is an inter-governmental body and India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua, New Guinea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam are its members. These countries together account for nearly 90 per cent of the total supply of natural rubber in the international market.

India bags Saudi contract

Bombay, (UNI) - An Indian firm has earned the biggest ever contract of 25 million dollars to operate and manage a new cement plant of one million tonne capacity in Yanbu in Saudi Arabia. The prestigious three-year contract was bagged by an Indian overseas firm, Associated Cement Companies in association with the Tata Exports Limited after a stiff competition from Turkey, Japan and Korea.

The plant owned by Yanbu Cement Company is nearing completion and ACC will start only after it takes over the operations. The final takeover is expected to be early next year. During the pre-takeover period, ACC will get 2.5 million dollars.

Mandays lo

New Delhi, (UNI) - The year 1980 is likely to record the lowest number of mandays lost in India in this decade.

During the first nine months of the year the mandays lost were 9.89 million against 37.58 million in the corresponding period last year. During the last decade 1976 registered the minimum mandays lost 15 million.

Unorganised labour and welfare of the handicapped received top most attention of the Union Labour Ministry in 1980, according to an official review.

The minimum wages for workers engaged in agriculture, mining and construc-

Small aircraft produced

New Delhi, (UNI) - India proposes to go in for the production of small transport aircraft.

A proposal to this effect is being considered by the Indian government, minister of state for Tourism and Civil Aviation Chandulal Chandrakar has said.

The need for indigenous production of small transport aircraft, he said, had assumed importance following the government's acceptance of the concept of a third level airline for more intensive coverage of selected areas. It had already been decided to provide supplementary air services to the north-east region through such an airline.

Referring to programmes for enlargement of existing international airports to enable them to handle a higher level of international traffic, the minister said these were being taken up on a priority basis.

Prof. Bindra dies

Montreal: Professor Dalbir Bindra of the Department of Psychology at McGill University, Montreal, has died suddenly at his home. He was 58.

Prof. Bindra was chairman of the Department from 1975 until last year. He has published about 90 scientific papers and four books, including A Theory of Intelligent Behaviour. It is considered an authoritative work on learning theory, individual behaviour and the chemical processes of the brain.

Born in Rawalpindi, Professor Bindra studied at Punjab University and Harvard before joining McGill in 1949.

He was also a member of the university senate, past president of the Canadain Psychological Association, a fellow of the American Psychological Association and of the Royal Society of Canada.

The Pakistani scholar is survived by his wife, two sisters and three brothers.

INDIA TO PURCHASE COKING COAL FROM CANADA

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Steel Authority of India (SAIL) is processing an offer to purchase 60,000 tonnes of coking coal from Canada at Freight on Board (FOB) price of 55 dollars a tonne.

Mandays lost lowest

New Delhi, (UNI) - The year 1980 is likely to record the lowest number of mandays lost in India in this decade.

During the first nine months of the year the mandays lost were 9.89 million against 87.58 million in the corresponding period last year. During the last decade 1976 registered the minimum mandays lost 13 million.

Unorganised labour and welfare of the handicapped received top most attention of the Union Labour Ministry in 1980, according to an official review.

The minimum wages for workers engaged in agriculture, mining and construction and building industry were revised upwards. While the agricultural workers were given wages between 0.68 dollars and 1.87 dollars as against between 0.56 dollars and 1.50 dollars. Those for mine workers ranged betwen 0.83 dollars and 1.25 dollars as against between 0.72 dollars and 1.10 dollars.

Regarding the minimum wages for agricultural workers in the States, it was decided at a meeting of State Labour Ministers to revise them at least once in two years. The Governments of Assam and Uttar Pradesh have notified proposals for revision whereas Orissa has already revised the wages.

Council invites members

The adhoc committee of the National Council of Asian Indian Organizations formed during the First Convention of Asian Indians in North America invites Indian associations in North America to send name(s) of prospective candidates who would be interested to serve in the adhoc committee. As decided in the General Council meeting, new members will be co-opted with a view of giving good representation all across North America. Please include a brief bio-data of the person showing his past involvement in the community and send it to National Council of Asian Indian Organizations, 535 W 111 St. Suite 42, New York, NY-10025.

Job policy for foreign technicians

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Public Accounts Committee of the Indian Parliament has asked the Government immediately to formulate a policy on the employment of foreign technicians and the tax concessions to be given to them.

In its 26th report presented to Parliament, the Committee has expressed surprise that no set policy seems to have been laid down at any stage on the question. The new policy should be reviewed periodically, keeping in view the development of technical skills in the country.

The Committee is also "deeply distressed" to note that various ministries concerned do not maintain records of the particulars of the contracts of service of the foreign technicians who came to serve in India. For instance, the figures supplied by the Industry Ministry to the Committee were not those asked for.

Therefore, the Committee stressed that the Administrative Ministries approving the contracts must keep full and elaborate records of the same and a copy sent invariably to the Finance Ministry.

INDIA TO CONSTRUCT ROADS IN LIBYA AND IRAQ

New Delhi, (UNI) - A big contract of 131.3 million dollars has been bagged by the Indian Road Construction Corporation (IRCC)

Small aircraft to be produced

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New employment protection for domestic employees.

Effective January 1, 1981.

A new regulation has been issued expanding employment protection for domestic employees (cooks, housekeepers, nannies), who work more than 24 hours a week. It does not apply to baby sitters or companions.

Wages

Domestic employees are entitled to
$24 per day
$132 per week
$568 per month or
$3 per hour

Room and Board

Householders may deduct up to $50 per week from a domestic employee's wages for room and board.

Time Off

Domestic employees are entitled to at least 36 consecutive hours of free time per week without deduction from wages. If work is performed during this free time, the equivalent amount of time off or payment at not less than $3 an hour must be given.

Annual Vacations

Domestic employees are entitled to at least 2 weeks of vacation per year and to at least 4 per cent of annual wages as vacation pay.

Public Holidays

Domestic employees are entitled to seven paid statutory holidays per year. If work is performed on the holiday, another day off with regular pay must be given before the next annual vacation.

All domestic employees, including those working less than 24 hours a week and baby sitters and companions continue to be covered by standards for termination of employment, pregnancy leave, equal pay for equal work and collection of wages.

Additional information may be obtained from the Employment Standards Branch, Ontario Ministry of Labour in the following cities:

Toronto
400 University Avenue
M7A 1V2
Tel.: (416) 965-5257

Hamilton
1 West Avenue South
L8N 2R9
Tel.: (416) 527-2951

Kenora
808 Robertson Street
P9N 1X9
Tel.: (807) 468-3128

Kingston
1055 Princess Street
K7L 1H3
Tel.: (613) 542-2853

Kitchener
824 King Street West
N2G 1G1
Tel.: (519) 744-8101

London
205 Oxford Street East
N6A 5G6
Tel.: (519) 439-3231

Ottawa
2197 Riverside Drive
K1H 7X3
Tel.: (613) 523-7530

St. Catharines
205 King Street
L2R 3J5
Tel.: (416) 682-7261

Sault Ste. Marie
390 Bay Street
P6A 1X2
Tel.: (705) 949-3331

Sudbury
199 Larch Street
P3E 5M7
Tel.: (705) 675-4455

Thunder Bay
435 James Street South
P7E 6E3
Tel.: (807) 475-1691

Timmins
273 Third Avenue
P4N 1E2
Tel.: (705) 267-6231

Windsor
500 Ouellette Avenue
N9A 1B3
Tel.: (519) 256-8278

For toll free numbers check the government listings in your local telephone directory.

The Ontario Government—working to help people

Ontario Ministry of Labour — Employment Standards Branch — Robert G. Elgie, M.D., Minister — William Davis, Premier

Ontario

CLASSIFIEDS

Matrimonials

Suitable match preferably in Canada for a divorced Rajput girl, 25, attractive, homely, M.A. Economics, working in States. Also for her younger brother, 23, graduate, extremely handsome, tall and athletic, working in India. Caste no bar. M-1737, The Canadian India Times.

Well established physician, 33, 5'-8" Bachelor Rajput, handsome, fair, excellent health, East West cultured, warm, outgoing, wide interests. Seeks life partner. Early marriage. High personal and social standards. Girl must be at least 5'-5", fair complexioned, slim, well educated, musical, artistic tastes, affectionate, polite. Caste no bar. No divorcees or wodows please. Full particulars with recent returnable photograph a must first instance. For further correspondence reply M-1754, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match wanted for a well settled Punjabi bachelor, 41, Canadian citizen. Family well established. Girl should be fair and slim. Caste no bar. Reply with recent returnable photograph to M-1755, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited from handsome, well settled professional over 5'-8", 27-32 for professional, very pretty girl, 26, 5'-4", Hindu Panjabi, U.S. immigrant. Phone (415) 964-0179 or write 906-100 Spadina Rd. Toronto, Ontario M5R 2T7.

U.S. immigrant, 29, U.S. educated, excellently established, very handsome, tall, Agarwal, architect (M.Arch) seeks beautiful match in India or abroad. Visiting India February, 1981. Write with returnable photograph, Box 194, Honolulu, Hawaii 96810 (808-922-8920).

Wanted a suitable match for a 5'-2" tall beautiful Jat-Sikh girl, 21. Send photo and particulars to 5245 Jeanne-Mance, Montreal, Quebec 514-273-8015.

Wanted a professional, doctor, engineer or chartered accountant for a beautiful Punjabi Brahmin girl, 23, height 5'-6", fair complexion, M.A. in English and Music, B.Ed., comes from a well placed family in Punjab. Reply Dr. R. Parkash, 12 Baker St, Yarmouth, N.S. (902) 742-5279.

Suitable Ramgarhia match required for an educated, employed Ramgarhia girl age21 years, height 5'-1"), Canadian citizen and family well settled in Canada for last 14 years. For details and further information please write to M-1756, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable matured gentleman required for a slim, well educated, professional nurse, middle aged, 5'-4" tall, Canadian citizen, well settled and independent. Caste no bar. For further particulars please write to M-1760, The Canadian India Times.

Punjabi Hindu parents of handsome, well-rounded, ambitious, qualified engineer, 28, 5'-9", Canadian citizen, starting M.B.A. in 1981 invites correspondence from tall, slim, fair, beautiful girl 20-21 studying for a professional degree in North America. Reply with returnable photogrn to M-1757, The Canadian India Times.

Brother, well-settled engineer, in Canada, from respectable, well-educated Jain family, invites matrimonial inquiries from good looking, smart, over 5'-7", under 30, well-educated, respectable, vegetarian Jain bachelors or his parents, here/India, for sister, fair, beautiful, graduate, 24, 5'-3", in Bangalore, India, for early marriage. * Hindi/Marathi/Gujarati Jains preferred*** Contact [416] 494-8796, Toronto, Canada.**

Wanted a Canadian/U.S. immigrant or citizen girl for Jat Sikh boy, 5'-11", finishing Ph.D. from a Canadian University. Girls merits main consideration. Caste no bar. Reply M-1758, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable match for two Hindu Brahmin boys, 30 and 28; height 5'-10" and 5'-7". Well settled in Canada. M-1759, The Canadian India Times.

Immigrant aid in Toronto

Indian Immigrant Aid Services in Toronto has introduced counselling services in cases where there is a family crisis, breakdown in family relations, marital desertion, problems of single parent families etc/confidentiality is guaranteed.

For further information and counselling, please call 651-1400 during regular working hours.

IRAN TO RELAX RESTRICTIONS ON TEA IMPORTS

Calcutta, (UNI) - The Iranian Government has agreed to relax the restrictions imposed on the import of high-priced tea from India for which orders and letters of credit amounting to 25 million dollars had been pending.

Tea worth 75 million dollars are also ready for shipment to Iran in which case the exporters are yet to receive the letters of credit.

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Wholesale: 1052 Birchmount Rd. [1 block N. of Eglinton Ave.], Scarborough, Phone: 759-5214

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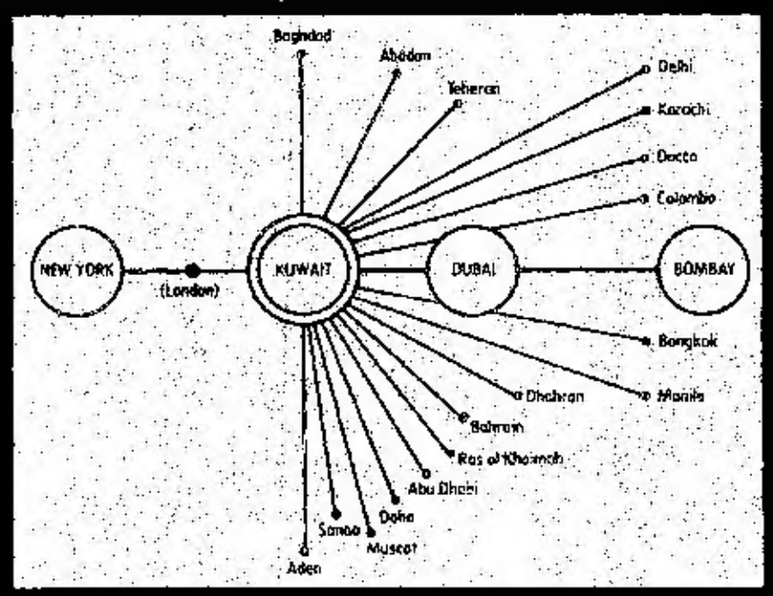

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